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ON THE COVER:
Douglas Associates pulled together a beautiful outdoor living area that effortlessly combines elegance with comfort for a perfect *al fresco* feel. PHOTOGRAPHY BY EMILY MINTON REDFIELD.

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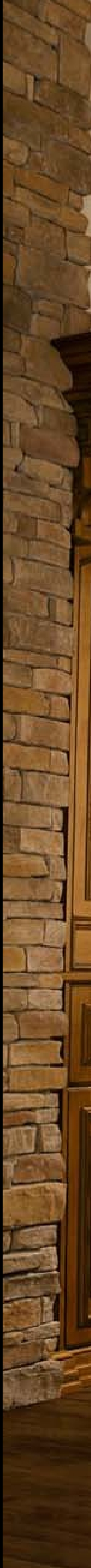
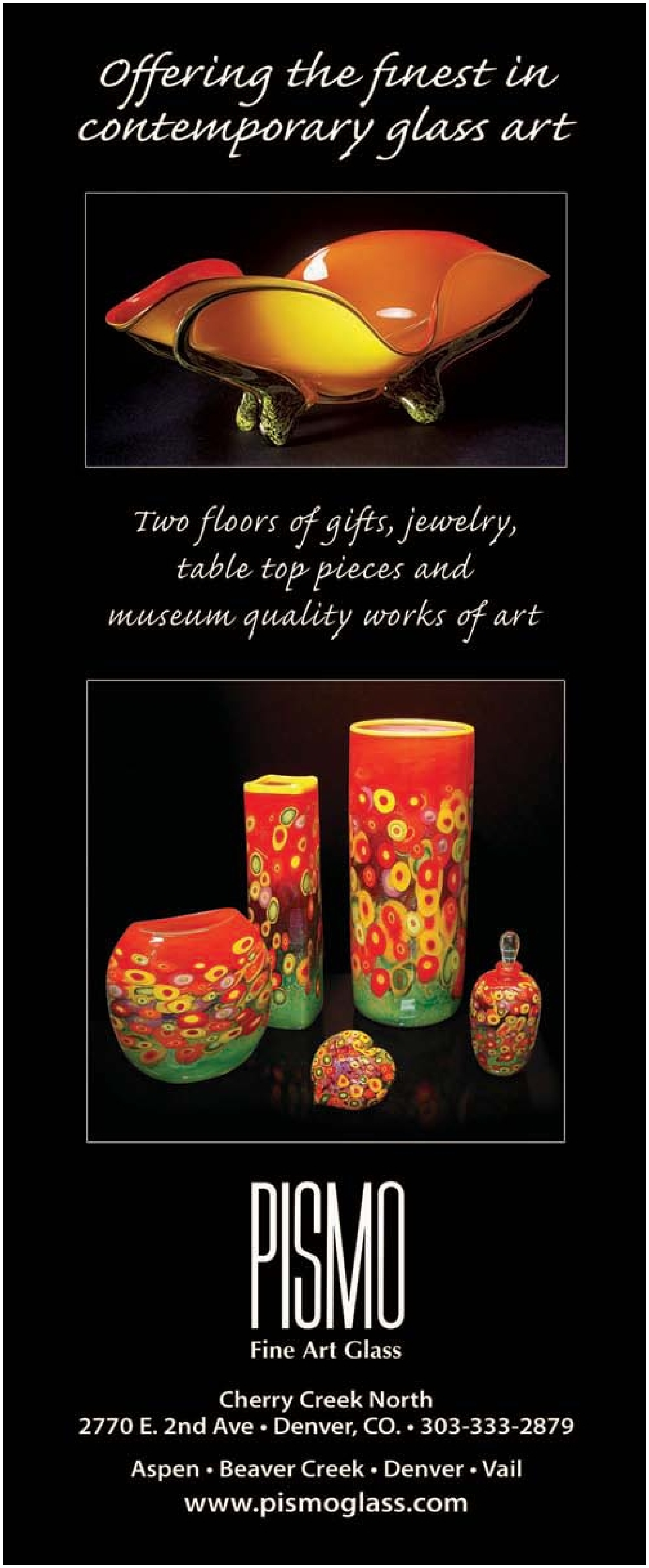


Mountain Retreat by Wood-Mode.



CH&L ON THE WEB

Between issues, find inspiration and ideas online at **ColoradoHomesMag.com.**

KIMBERLY GAVIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Don't miss our expanded **online events coverage**: party-planning ideas, recipes, tips from the experts, beautiful photos to inspire you and lists of resources to make your next party a success. You'll also find exciting event ideas for your own datebook on our online calendar. If you have an event to share, simply click on "submit an event" and follow the online instructions.

Follow us behind the scenes of the annual **Derby Party**—one of Denver's hottest tickets—and learn about the cause behind the big event: The Sean Lough Foundation (seanloughfoundation.com), the group that makes possible the Sean Ranch Lough Memorial Scholarship Fund at Colorado State University.

HOWARD SOKOL PHOTOGRAPHY

Get to know the team at *CH&L* as you **track our weekly blog** updates—new product announcements, scoop about our favorite shops and show-rooms, the state's best home design happenings, and tips from the design experts.

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When it's time to design, build, buy or landscape your dream home, turn to *CH&L*'s online database of professionals. Use the "**Find**" buttons at the top of the home page to track down the right pro for your project.

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Summer Sensations...

JOHN JOHNSTON

EVERY YEAR, as the days get warmer and longer, I have the same flashback: I'm a kid, waking up the first Monday morning of summer break. The promise of bike rides and water-balloon fights and summer rainstorms looms large—and I am giddy with the possibilities of how I'll spend my days.

What I remember about those days is sensory, less about the exact nature of what I did and more about how it felt—to ride my bike through a puddle after a thunderstorm or jump out of the pool and let the sun dry my skin.

Just because we no longer get a whole summer to play doesn't mean we can't relish some of summer's sensory gifts, especially in our homes and gardens.

To get you started, we've gathered up dozens of outdoor fabrics in bold colors and brilliant patterns (p. 17). We've asked a talented Colorado designer to create a whimsical, bright tablescape, perfect for an intimate outdoor gathering (p. 35). And we've found Colorado homes designed to make the most of the landscape and the glorious days that fill summer months (p. 58).

As I write this note, we're still in the throes of spring's finicky weather. But I'm looking forward to waking up one morning and remembering the way I felt as a child—and then finding a few hours to take in summer's rich offerings. I hope you do, too.

Best wishes,

Hilary Masell Oswald
Editor in Chief

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Terry Guinn, president of the National Kitchen and Bath Association, who passed away in April. Terry was a beloved colleague, and he will be missed.

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WHO SAYS BEAUTIFUL UPHOLSTERY has to stay inside? These outdoor fabrics rival their indoor counterparts with bold colors and brilliant prints, plus they're ready for the elements.

3

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2 SUNBRELLA EXCLUSIVE FOR PINDLER & PINDLER Hoff Miller, DDD, (303) 698-0800, hoffmiller.com.
3 GROUNDWORKS SOLARIUM Kravet Fabrics/Lee Jofa, DDD, (303) 733-1891, leejofa.com.
4 KRAVETSOLEIL Kravet Fabrics/Lee Jofa, DDD, (303) 733-1891, kravet.com.
5 MERIDIAN SUN FOR PINDLER & PINDLER Hoff Miller, DDD, (303) 698-0800, hoffmiller.com. ▷

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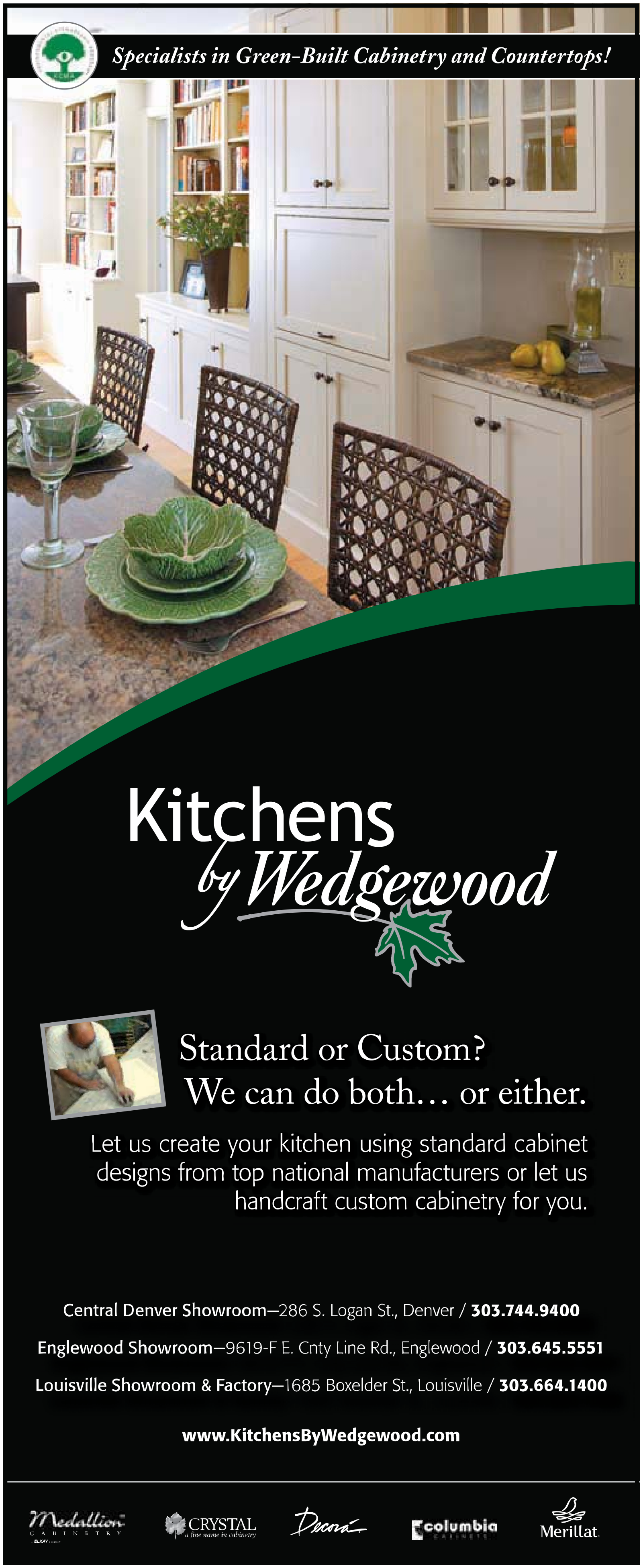

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1 GIATI+ELEMENTS John Brooks Inc., DDD, (303) 698-9977, johnbrooksinc.com.
2 TRINA TURK INDOOR/OUTDOOR FOR SCHUMACHER Schumacher, DDD, (303) 733-2591, fschumacher.com.
3 WESCO FABRICS Wesco Fabrics, DDD, (303) 777-5524, wescofabrics.com.
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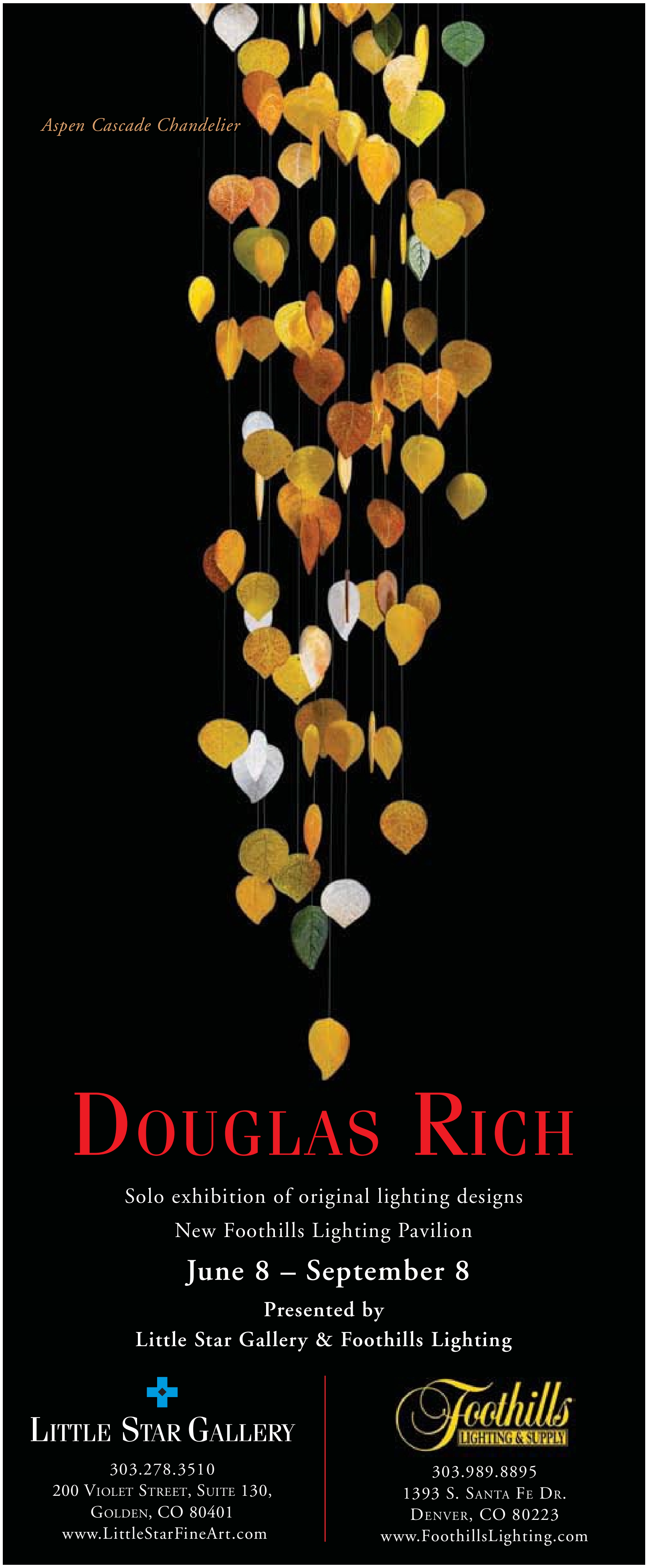

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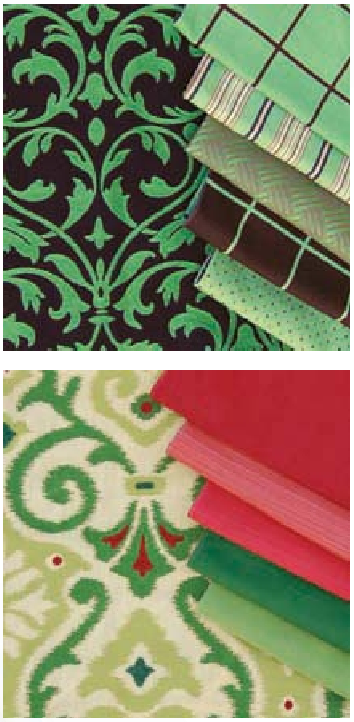

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Each month, *CH&L* editors bring you the events, art exhibitions, hot-off-the-press books and other exciting news we think you should know.

SHOWROOM NEWS

FOR A NEW TAKE ON MODERN DESIGN, check out Alesso Modern Source in Denver's Ballpark neighborhood, an up-and-coming design district north of the city. Part showroom, part design-networking opportunity, the newly launched business is the brainchild of Lauren Alesso, who hopes to be the go-to modern source for Denver. "If it's a modern project, I'm trying to take all of the legwork out of the project for either the end-user or designer," she says. Make an appointment to meet with Alesso to share your design needs, and if she can't help you—or design for you—directly, she promises to connect you with a local expert who can.

In her studio, you'll find rugs, lighting, accessories and furniture (like the Smoke Chair by Moooi shown above), all thoughtfully chosen by Alesso. The project is the culmination of her creative background—from study in the decorative arts with a focus on 20th-century furniture to three years of managing a modern design showroom in Denver, where she worked with such lines as Knoll, Fritz Hansen and Cristina.

Among the growing ranks of brands she carries (roughly 10 of which you won't find anywhere else in Denver), four are Dutch. One is called Moooi—Dutch for "beautiful"; it was discovered by Alesso in the "funky little art section" at last year's Milan Furniture Fair. Piet Boone is "less innovative but a really great fit for the Colorado market" and Arco and Montis are lines that offer interesting pieces and high-quality tables. Go for her local lines, too: DoubleButter furniture and Michael McCoy's latest work. In showcasing the best modern furniture-makers from near and far, Alesso's collection not only connects people with the right design sources, but brings the very latest in modern design to Denver. Alessomodernsource.com.

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Does your organization have exciting news to share? New products in your showroom or a design-related event? Let us know by sending an email to letters@coloradohomesmag.com.

HOME TOURS

Denver Luxury Homes Tour: THIS YEAR, THE DENVER LUXURY Homes Tour (formerly the Denver Parade of Homes), is mixing it up. Instead of sticking to one neighborhood, the tour will feature 27 custom homes located all over the Metro area, from as far north as Niwot to as far south as Castle Pines. All are currently for sale in the $1-million-plus range. Hosted by the Home Builders Association of Metro Denver, the tour is open to the public and takes place Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, June 5 through July 5. For more information about home locations and where to buy tickets, visit denverluxuryhometour.com.

HEALTHY HOMES TOUR & FAIR: LET THE GREEN MOVEMENT BE DEMYSTIFIED. At the Healthy Homes Fair in Avon, you'll find sustainable home ideas, products and services, all made understandable with the help of live demonstrations and on-site experts from the green trade. Then hop on an eco-friendly bus (or take your own bike or car) for the Healthy Homes Tour, where you can visit a handful of homes that showcase sustainable building techniques. A collaboration between Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability and Vail Symposium, the tour is open to the public and free from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, June 20 at Nottingham Park in Avon. For more information, call (970) 476-0954 or visit eaglevalleyalliance.org.

RONNA KATZ, "MARSH MAGIC," OIL ON BOARD.

art FESTIVALS

SUMMER IS ART FESTIVAL SEASON. What better way to while away the hours than to stroll among art outdoors? No matter which region you call home, there's bound to be a fair nearby. Here's our roundup:

CHERRY CREEK ARTS FESTIVAL:
July, 3, 4 & 5, cherryarts.org

DOWNTOWN FRISCO GREEN ART FESTIVAL:
July 4 & 5, artfestival.com

7TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN ASPEN ART FESTIVAL:
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July 25 & 26, artfestival.com □

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Rob Proctor

author and gardening guru

By Hilary Masell Oswald   Photography by Martin Crabb

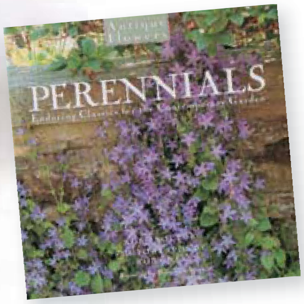
ROB PROCTOR DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS "JUST A GARDENER," but don't be fooled. One of Colorado's leading gardening experts, Proctor has enjoyed an illustrious career. He travels the country to share his wisdom—"I don't really tell people what to do in their gardens. I just tell them stories about plants"—and appears frequently on 9News and other media outlets to dish out his signature low-key advice, always with a side of humor.

Proctor's professional path has been a bit...circuitous. "I'm sort of like Madonna," he says. "I've reinvented myself a hundred times." The son of a father who was an English teacher and a mother who loved to garden, Proctor and his family moved to Colorado from Nebraska when he was five years old. He has a degree in journalism from the University of Colorado at Boulder, but he admits he is a "one-finger typist"—a challenge for a guy who has written 15 books in the last 20 years. He enjoyed stints as a professional horse-show groom, which allowed him to "see the whole country from the back of a horse trailer," and as a DJ who "actually used vinyl"—all before launching his career as a gardener and author.

He sounds slightly surprised by his own success. "I never really meant to do any of the things I've done because I just follow my passions," he explains. "It's all thanks to my mom's petunias and peonies and my dad's tomatoes and corn. I just turned my childhood into a career."

Today, he's passionate about cheering on local, amateur gardeners. "This is really one of the best places in the world to garden," he says. Instead of ▷

"These pots aren't very big, only about three or four inches, but they used to belong to the Queen of England. I just happened to be in England once, and for charity, they were selling off pots because they were switching to plastic. Can you imagine?"



"This was my first book. I was really lucky to have an editor who said, 'Just say what you mean. Don't try to dazzle me.'"

"Music is one of my passions. I cannot sing a note; I cannot play a note. When I was a kid, I so wanted to be in band, but I just didn't have the dexterity, so eventually, I became a DJ. Now I'm back at it. I think I might be the world's oldest DJ."

"Gardening is fabulously low-tech. Working in earth is just so basic, it doesn't take fancy machinery. My toolbox could be from two or three centuries ago. I think I could have lived in the last century and been very happy—me and my six animals" (including his cat, Mouse, shown here).

(far left) "I used to show horses, and this antique spoke to me because he reminds me of a simpler, more innocent age."

(center) "I love to paint. Every Christmas and Easter, I blow out some eggs, paint them with watercolors and then spray them with a clear varnish. It's about tradition for me."

wringing our hands and envying our East Coast friends' azaleas, Proctor encourages us all to relish the beautiful native plants that coastal dwellers can't grow—and then get out our containers to grow anything else we want.

"Container gardening is one of the fastest-growing segments of gardening," he explains. On his own back porch, Proctor grows banana plants, angel trumpets, palms and other tropical plants. "It kind of looks like Cancun in the summer," he says. "I'm always on vacation on my patio."

He's also a proponent of the feel-good benefits of gardening in Colorado. If you're tempted to dream about the lush year-round landscapes in Southern California, for example, Proctor reminds you that gardeners there never feel the excitement of seasonal changes. "They never say, 'Oh, the peonies are blooming!'" he says. "It's always just one note. I wouldn't trade climates with anybody."

And he wouldn't trade professions, either. While he teaches other gardeners not to fret over their plots of land and plants' fancy Latin names, he also reflects on how important gardens are. "They connect us directly to the earth, and if we lose that connection, we lose our whole history." □

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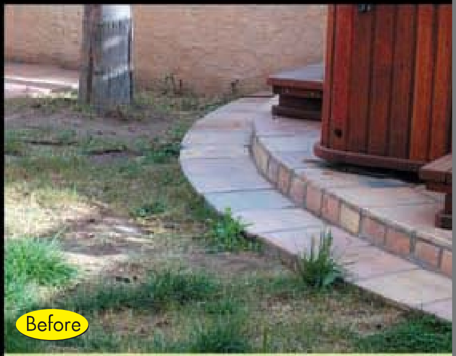

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Open-Air *Flair*

Designer Lane Oliver of LEO Interiors creates a colorful tablescape with dramatic pattern and playful style.

Photography by Martin Crabb

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DESIGNER LANE OLIVER HAS A FEW TIPS for creating a bright, whimsical summer tablescape like the one she designed here. Start with the backdrop: the table or the tablecloth. "I fell in love with this large floral print tablecloth," she says. "The scale and the charm of the pom-poms brought life to the patio." Use color, but use it evenly, so that even bold color palettes—like Oliver's—feel balanced. Keep an eye on the scale of items: "I selected patterned plates and bowls that were of a smaller scale than the print on the tablecloth. When you use multiple patterns, which you should, vary the scale, so the patterns aren't fighting with one another." And finally, have fun when you're setting a table for outdoor dining. "Your design should celebrate the joy of entertaining outdoors." □

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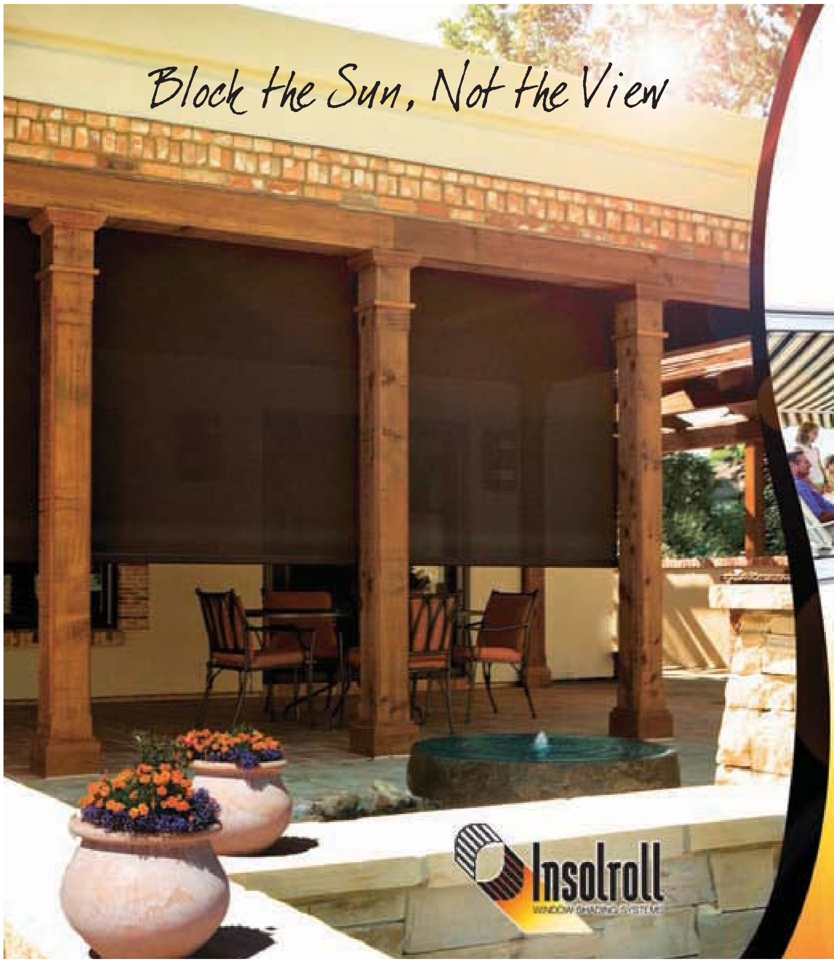

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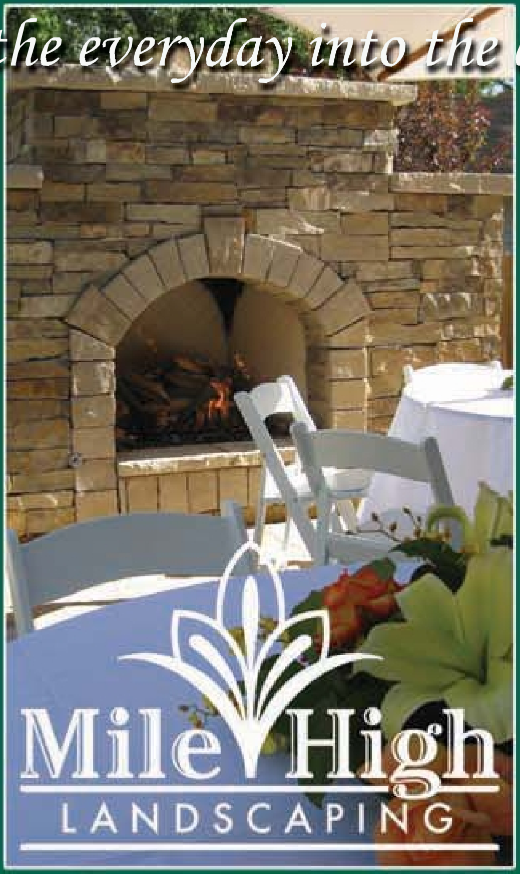

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By Hilary Masell Oswald
Photography by Emily Minton Redfield

WHERE IT BEGAN: This historic home in Denver's Country Club neighborhood already had a lot going for it when designer Melinda Douglas of Douglas Associates began dreaming up plans for the outdoor living space. Large, old trees surround the home; the property has ample lawn space; and the Georgian-Tudor architecture—paired with aged brick on the exterior—gives the home vintage charm.

"[The homeowners and I] wanted to reflect classic elements of design along with bits of surprise," Douglas says. She opted for clean-lined pieces from John Saladino Furniture in the seating area, and then added stone footstools as accents. The 19th-century French shutters-turned-mirrors hang nearby and add a touch of historic elegance. "You can certainly refit new shutters with mirrors [for a similar look], but old ones have a patina that is hard to duplicate," the designer says.

For the dining area, Douglas chose chairs from John Saladino and covered them in a mini-check green fabric from Chelsea Textiles. By layering the table with a topper and a skirt—both custom-made with fabrics from Chelsea—she adds softness to the space (a trick for homeowners who want to make dining *al fresco* feel as comfortable as dining indoors).

PERFECT TOUCHES: The designer's favorite space—and ours—is the upholstered seating area. "Most people tend to have all wood or metal furniture on their patios," Douglas says. "Our client has furniture that could work as easily inside as outside. It's much softer and more inviting than the norm. And the trellis-back sofa adds an extra bit of pizzazz." By mixing low-key but elegant furniture pieces with unusual accessories, Douglas created a room that serves as a stylish transition from the home's interiors to its backyard.

STYLE GUIDE: To create a cohesive look, choose an accent color that appears in your yard. (Douglas opted for green to play up surrounding lushness.) Use several different fabrics on tables, upholstered pieces and pillows; textile designers have given us ample beautiful options to choose from, each created to endure sun, rain and wind (you can start with the beautiful array on p. 17). And finally, a bit of common-sense advice from Douglas: "Your fabric has to be easy to clean, and your furniture has to be easy to move."

Douglas shopped at boutiques across the country to fill this room, but we asked her to pull together a list of products from Colorado sources that will help you strike a similar look. Turn the page to see what she chose. ▷

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Want this look? Go online to ColoradoHomesMag.com to see a complete list of items found in this room.

GET THE LOOK

Wall Art: Hung on the wall, an old gate—like this beauty from Black Tulip in Denver—"takes on another dimension," Douglas says. *blacktulipantiques.net.*

English Ivy Topiaries: These topiaries pay homage to the room's classic design. Douglas recommends using live, green textures to enliven and enhance any outdoor space. Smith and Hawken, Denver, *smithandhawken.com.*

La Jolla Collection Sofa: "This elegant collection from Restoration Hardware offers classic, clean lines," making an ideal foundation for smart, tailored rooms. Denver, *restorationhardware.com*.

Midsummer Ikat Outdoor Pillows: To add an element of romance and style, toss these pillows—covered in soft poly canvas—on the sofa. West Elm, Denver, *westelm.com.*

Turned White Table Lamp: "These lamps have a smart, unusual look and feel. Place two with black shades on either side of the sofa to create a dialogue between them." HW Home, Denver and Boulder, *hwhome.com.*

Beachcomber Outdoor Pillows: On the side chairs, add these green-and-white lumbar pillows. "The green allows the room to pick up the hues of the yard." West Elm, Denver, *westelm.com.*

Table Drape: "Calico Corners has a plethora of fabrics and a workroom that can create any table drape." Customize your own with a soft green fabric, or opt for another color from your garden. Calico Corners, Denver and Lone Tree, *calicocorners.com.*

Convex Drum Table: This earthenware accent table "lends panache to the room and can be placed anywhere." West Elm, Denver, *westelm.com.*

DESIGN TIP: "Candles, olive jars and curved pots make the room come alive, as do books and photographs. But use these elements in moderation. Simple and clean is best." □

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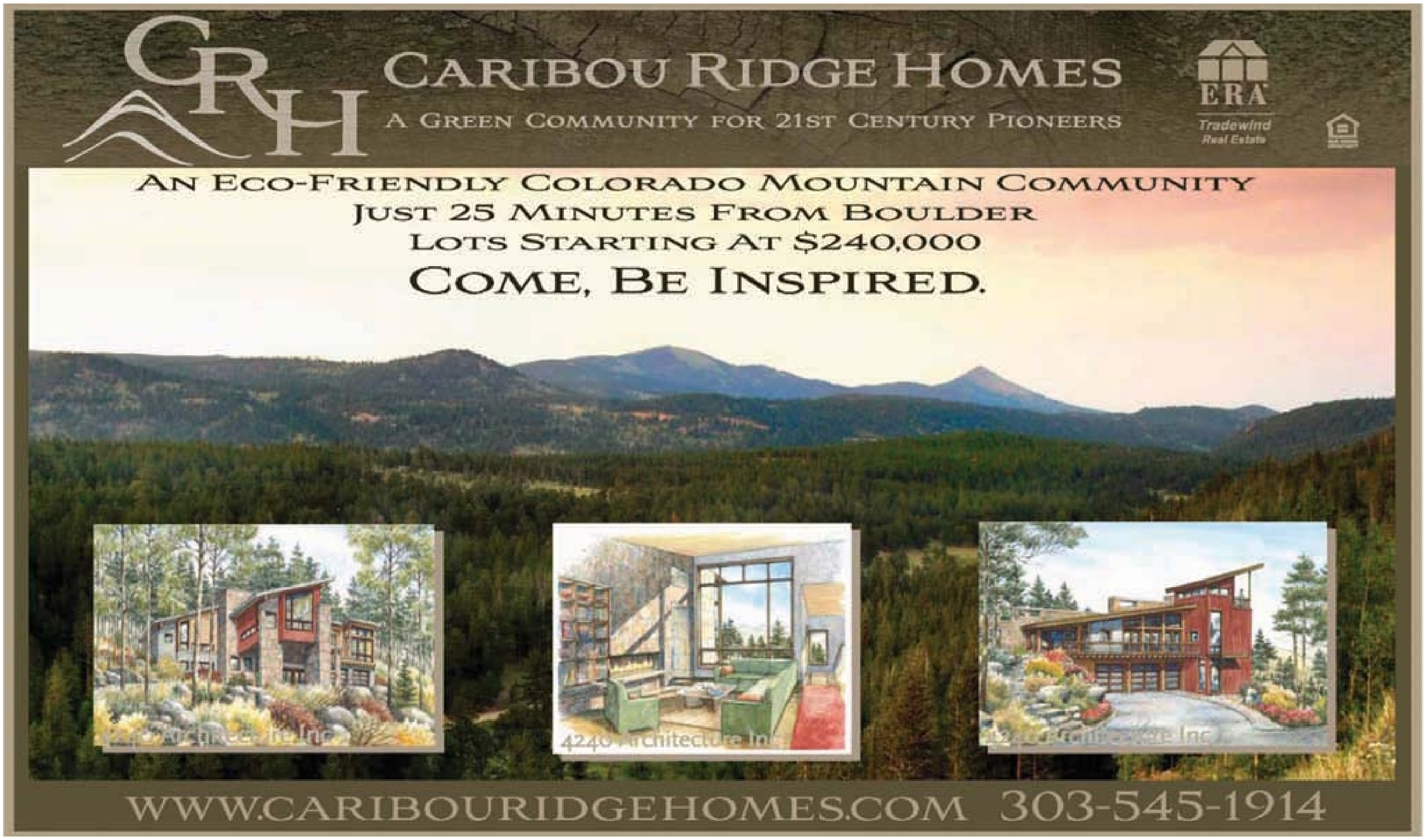
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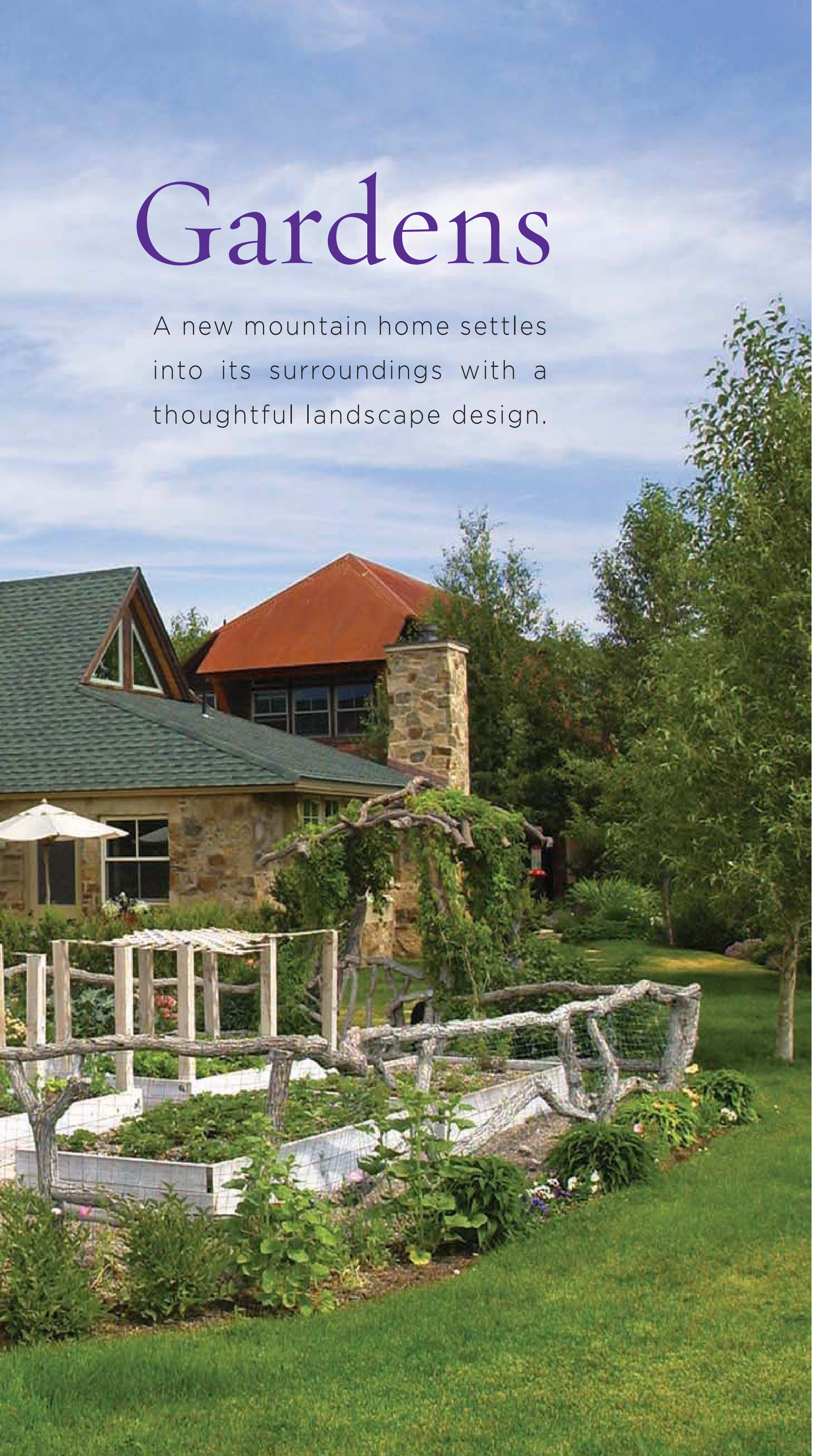
High Country

Fallen Gambel oak branches add a rustic touch to an enclosure and vine-covered gateway around the raised-bed cottage garden. The architecture of the new home is derived from the Colorado ranch-house vernacular and adapted to the homeowners' desire for contemporary amenities. A range of purple and blue delphiniums livens up the landscape.

Gardens

A new mountain home settles into its surroundings with a thoughtful landscape design.



WHEN RICHARD SHAW WAS hired to design the landscape for a home in Old Snowmass, he faced a number of interesting challenges. The sprawling new ranch house is located on a 35-acre parcel adjacent to a large cattle ranch, with spectacular views of Snowmass and Capitol Peaks. “It was important to fit our landscape design ▷

By **Nancy Richman Milligan**

Photography by
D. A. Horchner/Design Workshop

(above) The sunny terrace functions as an outdoor living room, with a covered porch to provide shade during the day, a fireplace to warm the nights and a flagstone terrace for *al fresco* dining. Plants include delphinium, salvia, peony, hollyhock, dianthus and lady's mantel.
(above, right) A stone wall separates the terrace from the lawn, providing a place for seating and casually displayed art pieces. "We had a desire to make this sunny terrace a colorful and punctuated space," says landscape architect Richard Shaw.
(right) The spa is nestled into a wall of Colorado buff sandstone and surrounded with bright red lupines, white Shasta daisies and black-eyed Susans.

into the bigger landscape and panoramic visual environment," says Shaw, a principal with Design Workshop in Aspen. "It was also essential to create a sense of intimacy with gardens close to the house, so they didn't get lost in the pastures." Add to that the homeowners' desire for outdoor living spaces at a chilly 7,900-foot altitude, and the designer had his work cut out for him.

Fortunately, Shaw had a good working relationship with the home's architect, Larry Yaw of CCY in Basalt, and became involved early in the design process. The two collaborated to create a warm and sunny pocket for outdoor living on the south side of the U-shaped house, with one wing of the house sheltering the space from western winds. The resulting outdoor living area features a covered porch, fireplace, relaxing spa, and stone walls and terraces that provide a sense of enclosure.

To create an intimate, welcoming landscape close to the house, Shaw designed lushly packed gardens with plants selected for color and texture—delphinium, hollyhock, hosta, lupine, daisy, Siberian iris, peony, purple coneflower, salvia and more. "When you live in the high country with long winters, you tend to choose plants that bloom early," Shaw explains. "We love the exuberance of bright colors in the spring." He layered the gardens with enough variety to provide color and blossoms all season long.

Like those that would surround a cottage, the gardens embrace the house with coziness, creating "a sense of welcome that is very different from the open setting of the home," Shaw says. "It's a lush environment that responds to the bigger landscape by contrasting with it."

Shaw made gestures to the wide-open spaces and natural landscape by planting native materials in areas that merge with the agricultural land: tall grasses, a row of cottonwood trees standing sentinel along an irrigation ditch, and additional Gambel oak and serviceberry trees to meet those growing naturally on the hillside behind the house. "We took a lot of care during construction to protect native vegetation," Shaw says.

He also took care to ensure the gardens would be manageable to maintain. "The plants are well adapted to this area," he says. Shaw replaced the heavy clay soil excavated during construction ▷

with special soil mixes that promote healthy growth. Although the lawns and perennial beds require spray and drip irrigation, they take up only a relatively small amount of land.

"What we attempted to do is very 'Colorado,'" Shaw explains. "The house and landscape have a feeling of arrival and intimacy, yet are open to stunning mountain views and seasonal changes. This house lives very well in its setting." □

(clockwise from top left) An intimate, lushly planted garden welcomes visitors at the main entrance to the house. Virginia creeper vines climb the stone wall, while columbine, lupine, flax, Siberian iris, delphinium, forget-me-not and sweet woodruff grow in profusion. A narrow-leaf cottonwood tree anchors the garden and defines the entry. A canopy of aspen and narrow-leaf cottonwood trees shelters the path between the main entry and garage. Colors and textures play against one another in this entry garden. Shaw mixed traditional Colorado aspen trees and dwarf blue spruce into the flower gardens. Purple coneflowers thrive in the high-altitude garden.

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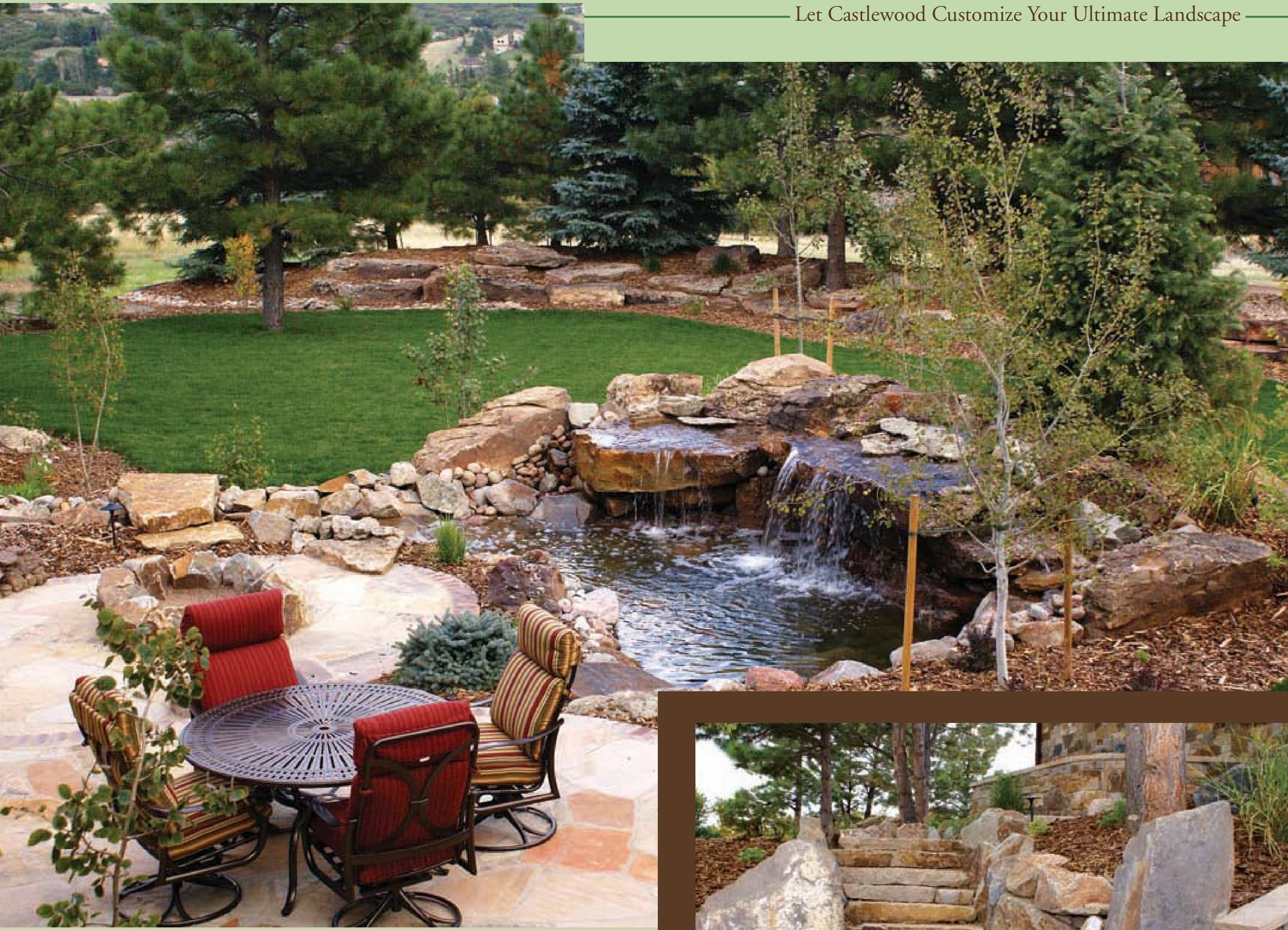

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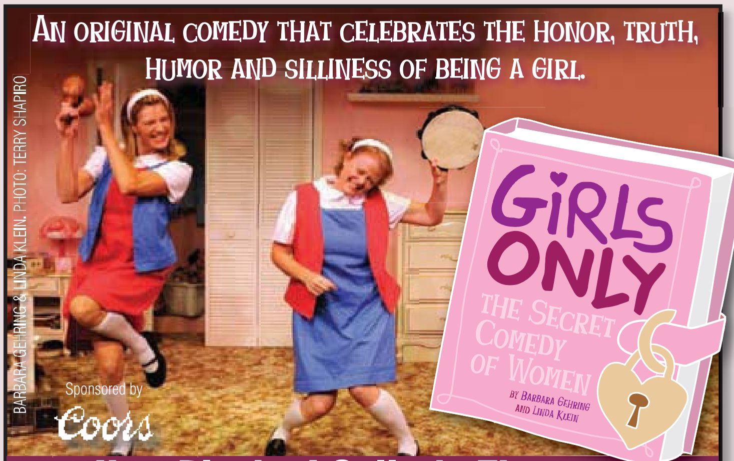

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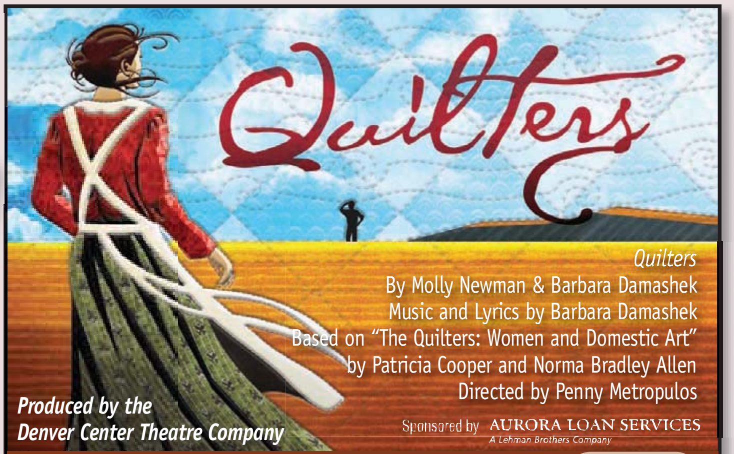

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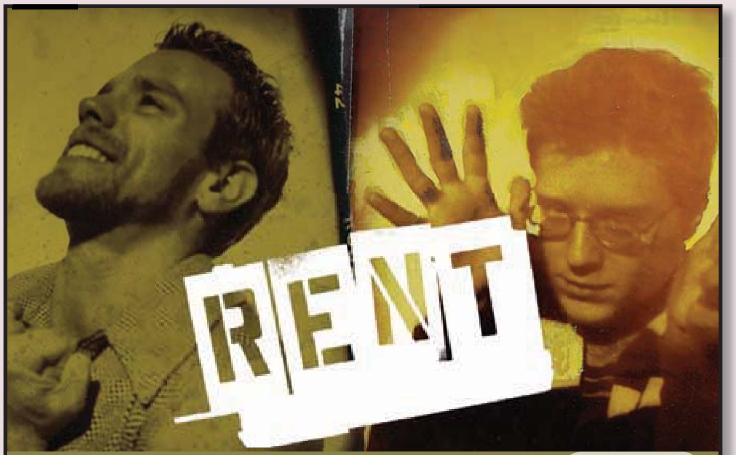

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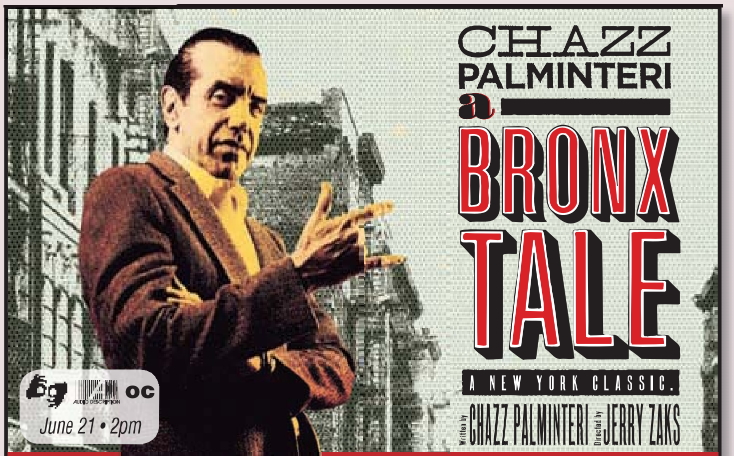

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Urban Nest

Step inside the home of Scott Coors and Dave Hurt, and you'll realize quickly that you've walked into one of the most unique spaces in Denver. Expansive steel windows show off an unexpectedly private outdoor oasis and establish the home's emphasis on **indoor/outdoor living**; an intriguing art collection invites interpretation; and a bold, earthy palette of color, texture and fabric balances classic lines and contemporary style with the right amount of comfort.

Located in the exclusive Belcaro neighborhood of Denver, the home was built in the late '90s by a prominent Denver businessman who was the mastermind behind the original design—a study in structured symmetry and boundary-breaking residential design. Features more often seen in commercial settings—like a pyramid-shaped skylight in the kitchen ceiling or the large, glass tiles on the floor in the second-story home gym that offer an aerial view of the great room below—are surprising in a residence, but work brilliantly in this home.

By **Haley Carpinelli**

Photography by **Ben Tremper**

"I love the Studio Sofa and surrounding bookcases by Thomas O'Brien for Hickory Chair," designer Jim Hering says. "They are the perfect scale for the room and provide a library-like feel, which makes everything more comfortable. The flatwood surfaces of the bookcase provide a unique and exciting opportunity to showcase some of Scott and Dave's wonderful art collection."

(above) The sleek design of a bar-height dining table and chairs adds drama to the dining room, and echoes the black and gold tones of a painting Coors and Hurt picked up in Santa Fe. A shell light fixture from the HW Home Collection presides over the room.

(above, right) The vaulted skylight creates a dynamic focal point in the kitchen. "You don't often see a feature like this in a residential setting," Hering points out. Nancy Sweet, known for her faux paintings, added sapphire blue around the base of the window to ease the indoor-outdoor transition, a decision that "makes the skylight work, and not just feel open to the world," Hering says.

When the house became available two years ago, Coors and Hurt couldn't pass up the opportunity to realize the home's potential: "We have a history with the house," Hurt admits. "We watched with a lot of interest as it was being built. We loved the architecture, the maturity of the trees and the close proximity to the city and Cherry Creek."

The homeowners entrusted the interiors to designer and friend Jim Hering, co-owner of HW Home, and a new vision for the home emerged. "The house had good bones and clean classic lines, but it lacked focus," Hering says. "Scott and Dave are interesting, eclectic people, and the design needed to reflect that."

The result is a visually engaging mix of color, texture and materials that honors the architectural details already in play. The strength and scale of new steel windows by Hope's Windows define the interiors, and make the indoor and outdoor living spaces feel cohesive. In the living room, plantation-grown walnut floors replaced the original carpeting, but the floors were installed to fit within the room's existing border of floor tiles, a feature that visually defines the space (and one that Coors and Hurt decided to add in the master retreat). A custom-made cowhide rug anchors the comfortable and stylish seating arrangement of exotic wood furnishings, mohair fabric and locally made pillows. Faux painting artist Nancy Sweet added subtle texture and tones of bronze and metallic gray to both sides of the fireplace, drawing attention to its commanding scale.

Bold red cushions play up the outdoor living area and create a city-chic vibe. "This is a unique outdoor space for Colorado, and we wanted to take advantage of that by bringing the indoors out," Hering says. A mix of sofas, lounge chairs and other seating offers a space to escape and entertain. All-weather patio furniture by Cane-line.

“The house looks and feels open, yet is incredibly private.”
OWNER DAVE HURT

(above) The windows in the master retreat create a “lighthouse” effect, providing an expansive view of the surrounding neighborhood and distant mountains. “It’s like living in a tree house,” Hurt says.

(above, right) “Everyone wants a bedroom they can truly live in,” says Hering. “We kept all the fabrics in the master bedroom plush.”

Enter the large dining room, and find an exciting entertainment space, where a bar-height dining table and chairs—sold with the house—places guests at eye level with one of the couple’s favorite conversation pieces: a painting with a series of dark archways. “If you study it long enough, you’ll find the lone soul perched in one of the arches,” says Coors.

Outdoors, the living space combines the unexpected luxury of a pool with a city-chic lounge area. And yet it all feels organic to Denver—thanks to skillfully chosen furnishings and landscaping. “One of the best parts about living in Colorado is that no matter what the season, there will be plenty of beautiful days you can enjoy outside,” Coors says. To make the most of this perk, Hering and the owners designed the space as an extension of the interior with the help of color and texture. The handsome all-season furniture—black frames dressed in red cushions—provides a visual invitation to enjoy the space even in the winter months. Hurt added several outdoor rugs to create defined and intimate seating arrangements. The surrounding gardens, originally designed in an English style, were replanted using indigenous materials whenever possible to reflect Colorado’s natural aesthetic.

The savvy indoor-outdoor design doesn't stop there. An extensive remodel on the second story transformed two guest bedrooms into one spectacular master retreat that makes the most of stunning views. A wall of windows opens the space to the outdoors, and a three-sided fireplace divides the blissful, spa-inspired bath from the sleeping and lounging area. "We both love the physical comfort and visual fascination of fire and water, and we wanted our master to incorporate these two elements," says Coors. The oversized steam bath and shower are luxurious additions. Using Ann Sacks tile, Coors and Hurt created texture with smooth, frosted glass tiles on the shower floor and brushed stainless steel "penny round" tiles on the wall. The clear glass enclosure overlooks the fireside lounge area, complete with a wet bar and built-in espresso maker.

In a home filled with spectacular spaces, it's easy to see why the master retreat has become "our most used living space," says Coors. Open, yet incredibly private, the "lighthouse" effect of the windows offers an expansive view of the neighborhood Coors and Hurt fell in love with years ago. Says Hurt, "It's like living in a tree house"—a statement that proves these homeowners know how to combine the best of indoor and outdoor living. □

DESIGN DETAILS

Interior Design:
Jim Hering
HW Home
(303) 394-9222
hwhome.com

Bathroom Remodel:
Carter Design Builders
(303) 770-3424
carterdesignbuilders.com

Faux Painting:
Nancy Sweet
Sweet Walls
(303) 333-8662

Original Architecture:
Michael Knorr
Michael Knorr & Associates, Inc.
(303) 744-1887
michaelknorr.net

For more information about the products in this home, visit ColoradoHomesMag.com

Capturing Asian culture was important to the homeowner, so designer Petra Richards used luscious silks in bright tones. Themed sculptures and vases add to the subtle Asian undertones and also draw attention to the large fireplace that helps create a cozy, mountain feel.

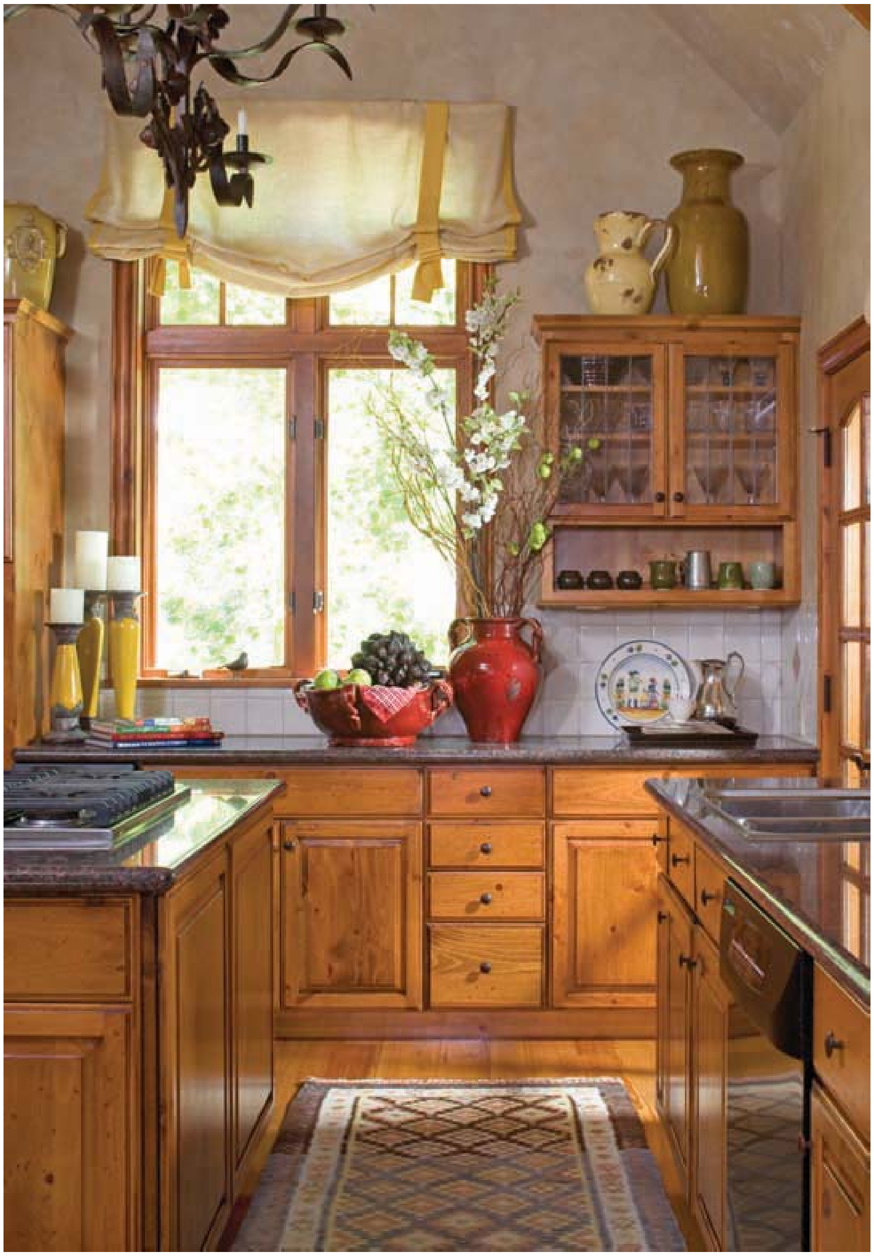
bringing THE world to the mountains

Designer Petra Richards tells *CH&L* how her international travels inspired her work in this Roaring Fork Valley home.

BY SARAH ANN NOEL PHOTOGRAPHY BY EMILY MINTON REDFIELD

CH&L: As a designer who has seen the world, tell us what inspires you most.
Petra Richards: Everywhere I travel, there are ideas to catch and values that I find and carry home. Cities like Florence or Rome are influential. On the other hand, London also inspires with its clean looks and funkiness. Then there are the Asian influences of the Far East. I'm German, and connected with Europe, so I definitely try to stick to my roots, too.

How did you tie the concept of culture into this home?
[The homeowners] are an international couple. She's Korean, and he's American. They have another home in New York, so they split their time between Colorado and there. They wanted the home to be European, particularly with some French influence, but still cozy and homey. And there are some Asian influences because of her history. We have a little melting pot—we tried to melt their marriage together in their house.



When Richards met the owners of this Aspen Glen home, the original plan was to help them only with the window treatments. “They were out shopping for their house by themselves, and we ran into each other by accident,” she says. “They were not looking for a designer.” But the relationship evolved, and she has since helped them transform the home into a mountain get-away representative of their international style.

(left) The kitchen demonstrates a love for color blended into the French country fashion, both of which were important to the home-owners. The antique chandelier, which dresses up the space with contrast and sophistication, is one of Richards’ favorite pieces.

(right) Richards describes the dining room as a “melting pot” of the homeowners’ styles. The space blends elements from the kitchen’s French country décor with the homeowners’ knack for clean, modern lines—all with an air of elegance.

Tell us about how you worked with the homeowners to draw in special cultural elements, knowing that they wanted an international feel.

They were very much involved in the process. We went out and did a lot of shopping together. All together, it was a real joint venture—this was their vision. For example, he’s more sleek and modern, and the house brings out his boldness. It’s very alive, and I think it shows in the sunroom especially. But in the living room, there is more of the Asian theme with the silk on the sofas, which also brings in a more elegant and traditional feel. And there are some Asian accents to make the room playful and yet still sophisticated.

Is there a predominant cultural thread?

The dining room and the kitchen are connected, so we wanted to bring in more of the French country style. You can see this in the kitchen with the big yellow pots and the black chandelier with the candles. In the dining room, it started with the drapes and it kind of all came together from there. We hunted for some furniture and found a table and bench they fell in love with.

(left) The homeowners found this dining table and cushioned bench for the breakfast nook. "This was their vision for this room," Richards says. Throughout the space, similar patterns in the curtains and pillows by Lorca draw attention to the carved detail in the table.

(right) Though the sunroom was already warm and bright, Richards worked with the homeowners to select Osborne & Little fabrics in bright colors and eclectic patterns to make it come to life. Soft floral window treatments and pillows adorned with pinks and greens are paired with more neutral tones. "You can always mix and match patterns," Richards says. "Dots, stripes, flowers, circles—it all works, just coordinate the colors."

DESIGN DETAILS

Interior Design
Petra Richards
Petra Richards Interiors
(720) 201-1999

For more information about the products in this home, visit ColoradoHomesMag.com

This home is in Aspen Glen, near Carbondale. How did you draw in those international elements and still maintain a cozy mountain feel?

Whether the home is sophisticated or modern or funky, if it's in the mountains, you have to feel like you can curl up on the sofa with a blanket. Drapes for me are very important. They make a room warmer. Also, I tend to stick animal [figurines] in mountain houses, just here and there, like a bird on the windowsill. I can't help it because I just think they belong there. But this home is more international than the traditional mountain home that has a moose over the fireplace—and that's a good thing. □

GAUGUIN

fresh start

A CREATIVE TEAM REINVENTS A DATED ASPEN PROPERTY

WITH CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE,

NATURAL MATERIALS AND AN OPEN-AIR FEELING.

When Aspen architects Sarah Broughton and John Rowland set out to design a contemporary spec house for a local developer, they thought they would completely scrap the worn 1960s chalet-style duplex to accommodate the new building that would take its place.

But then they reconsidered. The structure—a three-story duplex unit with a one-story guesthouse—and the down-valley vistas of Red Mountain and Castle Creek convinced them that some things should

By **Nancy Richman Milligan** Photography by **Jason Dewey**

(opposite, top) Settled into the same footprint as a demolished 1960s duplex, the new 6,700-square-foot house is built on multiple levels and connected to a walled courtyard. The use of semi-transparent stains on the cedar siding highlights the contemporary architecture.

(opposite, bottom) A firepit extends the use of the terrace year round. Stone surfaces form built-in seats, while blue switchgrass softens the hardscape.

A curved flagstone path leads to the front entry, covered by a brise-soleil to soften the sun's rays. New elements of the landscape design include stacked stone veneer on the courtyard wall and stone cube benches.

A fabulous grass chaise anchors the media room. “Its organic shape makes the whole space friendlier,” says interior designer Linda Girvin. She paired clean lines and smooth surfaces with highly textural pillows and rugs for a cozy feeling.

remain unchanged. "After getting familiar with the site, we realized that if we altered the footprint, we would lose some of the spectacular views," Rowland says.

The architects dreamed up a modern multi-level design with a connecting courtyard, all contained within the original building's footprint. The new home's point of entry is the courtyard, which leads into a window-lined, one-story structure that houses an art gallery and a private master bedroom suite. A short stairway opens to the three-level section of the house, which includes a great room on the mid level, bedrooms above, and a media room and guest quarters on the lower walk-out level.

The 6,700-square-foot, six-bedroom house works well for cozy evenings around the fireplace or a house full of guests. "Our goal was to design a house with the flexibility to be either a full-time home or a vacation home," Rowland says. The current owners purchased the home soon after its completion in 2005, and hired Aspen artist and interior designer Linda Girvin as well as Bluegreen, a local landscape firm, to design the interiors and enhance the indoor-outdoor connection.

FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

"We approached this project with the goal of preserving what was there while creating a new design," says landscape architect Sheri Sanzone of Bluegreen. Here are some of the techniques she used:

- **Keep elements** of a hardscape in place and enhance them
- **Preserve native trees** and shrubs
- **Reuse gravel** from the site in a different area
- **Buy castoffs** from a stone yard and have them cut into stone cubes for benches
- **Plant trees** for outdoor shade and to protect a house from solar gain on its south side
- **Introduce concrete** bands to stabilize edges of an existing asphalt driveway
- **Prune and invigorate** mature plants

(above, left) Sheer glass and warm cherry wood are juxtaposed on a sculptural staircase that allows light to flow between spaces. Girvin placed organic objects like this polished tree root ball in critical spaces to bring balance.

(above, right) An Ingo Maurer sailcloth light fixture accents the entry's high spaces and serves as a stunning focal point. Wide glass double doors and clerestory windows fill the house with light and open it to the courtyard living space.

(above) Girvin designed the square black walnut dining table and surrounded it with bright green upholstered benches and boxy cane chairs. The room has a modern Asian flair with the rice-paper light fixture, bright vases and a stainless-steel urn from Bali.

(left) Girvin added the Holly Hunt lights, tile backsplash and barstools in the kitchen, which has mahogany cabinets and honed granite countertops. Sliding glass doors lead to outdoor living space.

DESIGN DETAILS

Architecture
ROWLAND + BROUGHTON ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN
(970) 544-9006
rowlandbroughton.com

Interior Design
LINDA GIRVIN, RIVER STUDIO INTERIORS
(970) 925-8320

Landscape Design
BLUEGREEN
(970) 429-7499
bluegreenaspen.com

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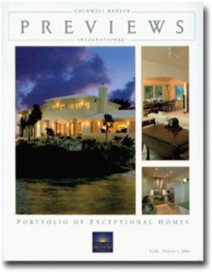

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Offered at $950,000

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RIVERFRONT PARK

DENVER | COLORADO

Offered at $1,850,000

This urban masterpiece is quaintly situated in Riverfront Park. With incredible architectural detail and style throughout, this approximately 2,839 square foot brownstone is luxuriously appointed with the walnut floors, ebony wood, granite and vaulted ceilings. The three-story floor plan features a master suite, two bedrooms, three and one-half bathrooms, a gourmet kitchen, courtyard and a slate covered back patio.

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Offered at $1,395,000

This outstanding brick and stucco home features five bedrooms, six bathrooms, approximately 5,750 square feet, wide plank floors, gourmet granite kitchen and a master suite with walk-in closet and sitting room. The finished basement is great for entertaining and includes a wet bar area, recreation room, wired media room, bedroom, and bathroom. Additionally, the home boasts professionally landscaped front and back yards.

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This stunning four bedroom, six bathroom Colorado Craftsman home backs to open space, with amazing mountain and water views. Features include a gourmet kitchen with two-sided fireplace, beautiful family room with stone fireplace, a master with spa bathroom and secondary bedrooms all with their own bathrooms. The finished basement features a granite bar, workout room and space for a potential fifth bedroom.

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BOULDER | COLORADO

Offered at $1,379,000

Located on one of the most beautiful streets in North Boulder, this five bedroom, four bathroom home offers a flowing, open floor plan with high-end style and design. The home features a large, main-level master suite with luxurious bathroom, gourmet, well-equipped kitchen and an expansive porch with beautiful gardens and multiple entertaining areas.

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Girvin approached the space through the lens of her artist's eye. "When I do interiors, I always think about balance—between masculine and feminine, organic and geometric, smooth and textural, matte and shiny, old and new," she says.

Because the house is set on a one-acre property that rises up from Castle Creek, it lends itself to a dialogue with nature. Rowland and Broughton encouraged that connection by placing windows strategically to pull in the light and views, using natural building materials, and adding outdoor balconies, decks and the courtyard. Girvin expanded on the connection with her selection of finishes and textures—wood, rattan, stone and natural fabrics. And the professionals at Bluegreen set it all off with a comprehensive landscape design.

"The homeowners wanted to use the outdoor spaces quite a bit and asked us to re-create the landscape," says Bluegreen landscape architect and principal Sheri Sanzone. "The focus was on being sustainable and preserving some of the existing elements while tying everything together for design continuity."

Mature trees were maintained and trimmed, soil reworked and new sod planted. Bluegreen's designers added stacked stone veneer to the garden walls. And because there was not much space for entertaining on the ground level, Sanzone expanded a small terrace with levels that gently descend down the hillside. Built-in seating and a firepit make the terrace a natural gathering spot to entertain or simply sit back and watch the sunset.

Sanzone introduced strong, clean lines to the courtyard with rock, geometric stone benches and a grid of crabapple trees. "We enhanced the curves of the existing flagstone paths and brought in strong linear elements to connect with the contemporary architecture," she says.

The redesigned house and landscape are clearly contemporary, yet they pay homage to the past. Streamlined rafter tails are an updated reminder of the original chalet style; trees planted decades ago still shade the house; and leather swivel chairs are a retro nod to the 1970s. Although given a fresh start, this house is well rooted in its past. □

(above, top) This bedroom has an international flavor with sheer flowered curtains by a Dutch designer, Italian linens and headboards that hint of Chinese influence. The pillows were hand-embroidered.

(above, bottom) Watercolors of organic plants by Molly Savour add color to the neutral guest bedroom. The dark walnut oval nightstands, topped in white marble, were custom designed by Girvin.

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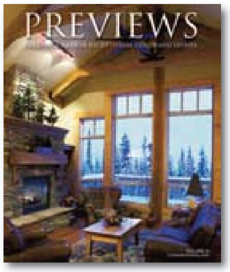

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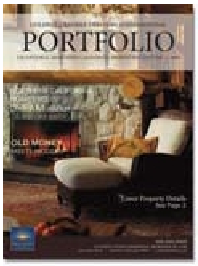

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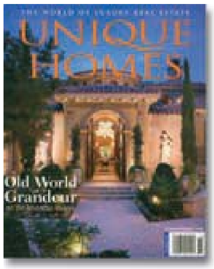

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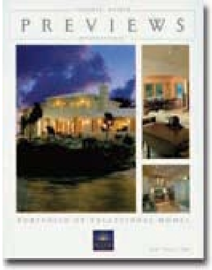

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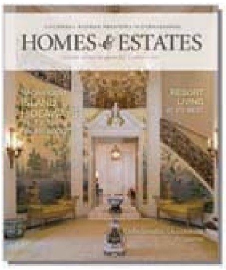

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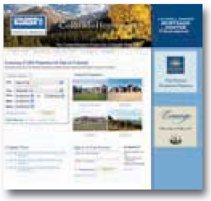
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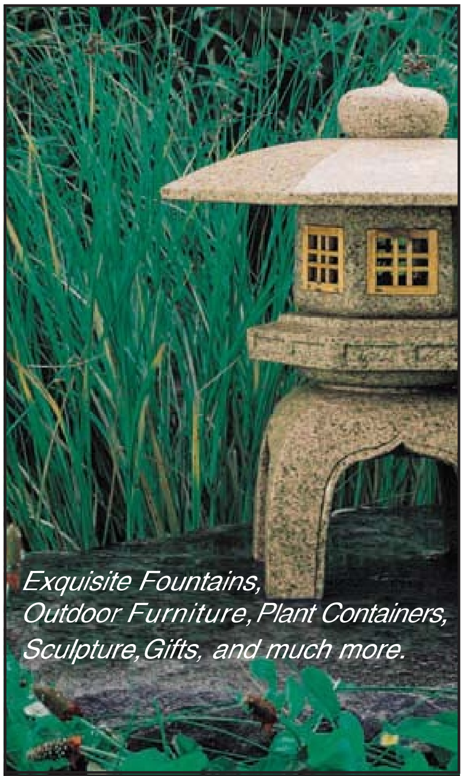

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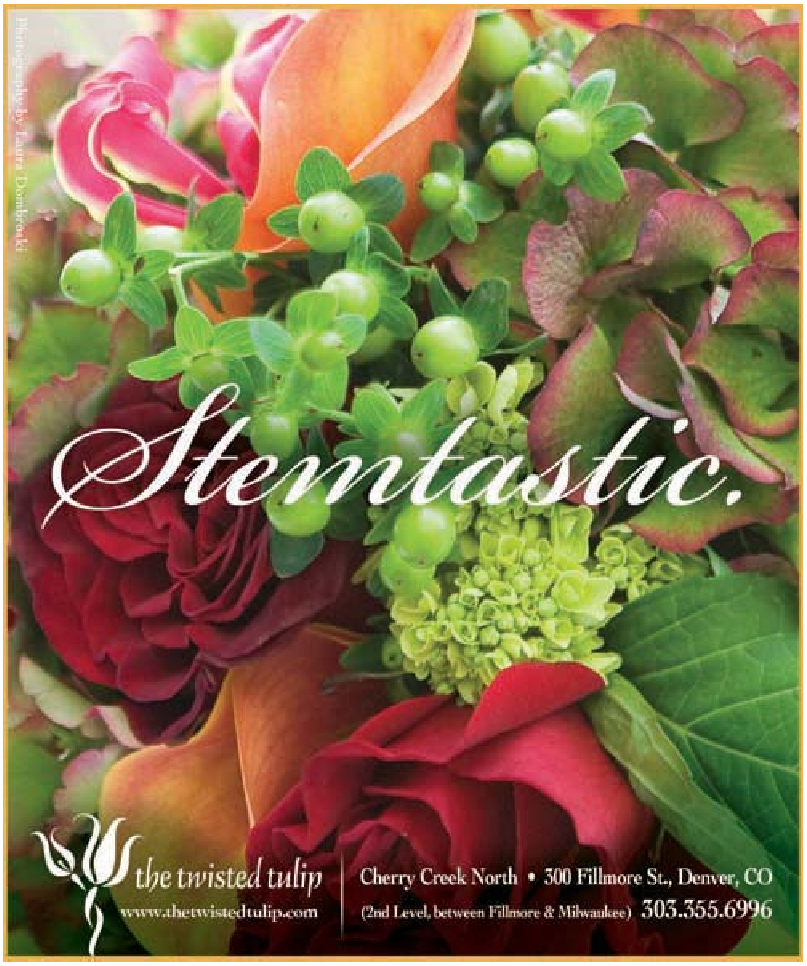

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10 things you should know about Brown Jordan Outdoor Furniture

1 BROWN JORDAN is considered the first company to manufacture outdoor furniture exclusively. It has won 17 design excellence awards over the past 64 years.

2 The company started in 1945 when Robert Brown, a designer and engineer, teamed up with Hubert Jordan, a sales and marketing pro, to create a brand of furniture that looked like outdoor art. Based in Pasadena, California, the company originally sold only to the trade. Today the furniture is still available through designers, as well as in prestigious department stores and at high-end outdoor specialty shops.

3 The first Brown Jordan collection featured the iconic indoor-outdoor wrought-iron breakfast set called “Morning Glory.” No longer in production, it’s a vintage collectible.

4 The company’s presence expanded from the West Coast to the East Coast in the late 1950s with the introduction of the “Tamiami” chair—an aluminum frame with diagonal vinyl straps. After Bloomingdale’s picked up the chair, the company catapulted into the national spotlight.

5 One of the company’s most iconic collections is the Walter Lamb Bronze Collection, introduced in the late ’40s and made of cotton cording and salvaged pipe from sunken naval ships in Pearl Harbor. In production through the ’60s, the line was discontinued and then reintroduced in 2008. The new version is made of nylon and brass pipes, which age into a bronze patina. This collection is available only at Gump’s in San Francisco or through interior designers.

6 Collections from every decade are still in production. Among the most popular: Tamiami, Sol y Luna, Wave, Quantum, the Walter Lamb Bronze Collection, Fusion and Campaign.

7 Brown Jordan has long been a trendsetter in color choices: the 1948 Leisure Collection was jonquil and parrot green. Of course, the company still relies on its signature color combo: black jade and chalky white.

8 The idea of vinyl lacing—or a continuing piece of vinyl laced around a frame—originated with the Leisure Collection.

9 Since these sets are often passed from generation to generation, the company devotes 42 pages in its 128-page catalog to replacement parts—even for discontinued collections.

10 How can you tell a Brown Jordan piece? It’s heavier and more substantial than most other pieces of metal patio furniture because of thick-gauge aluminum tubing. It also offers cleaner welds and flowing design. And most importantly, every piece has an identifying sticker—like a birth record.

—Sally Stich

(clockwise, from top left) Tamiami II, Wave Lounge Chair, Sol y Luna Armless Lounge Chair, Fusion Lounge Suite, Available at The Columbine Collection, Denver Design Center, denverdesign.com.

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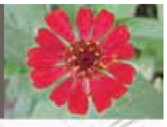

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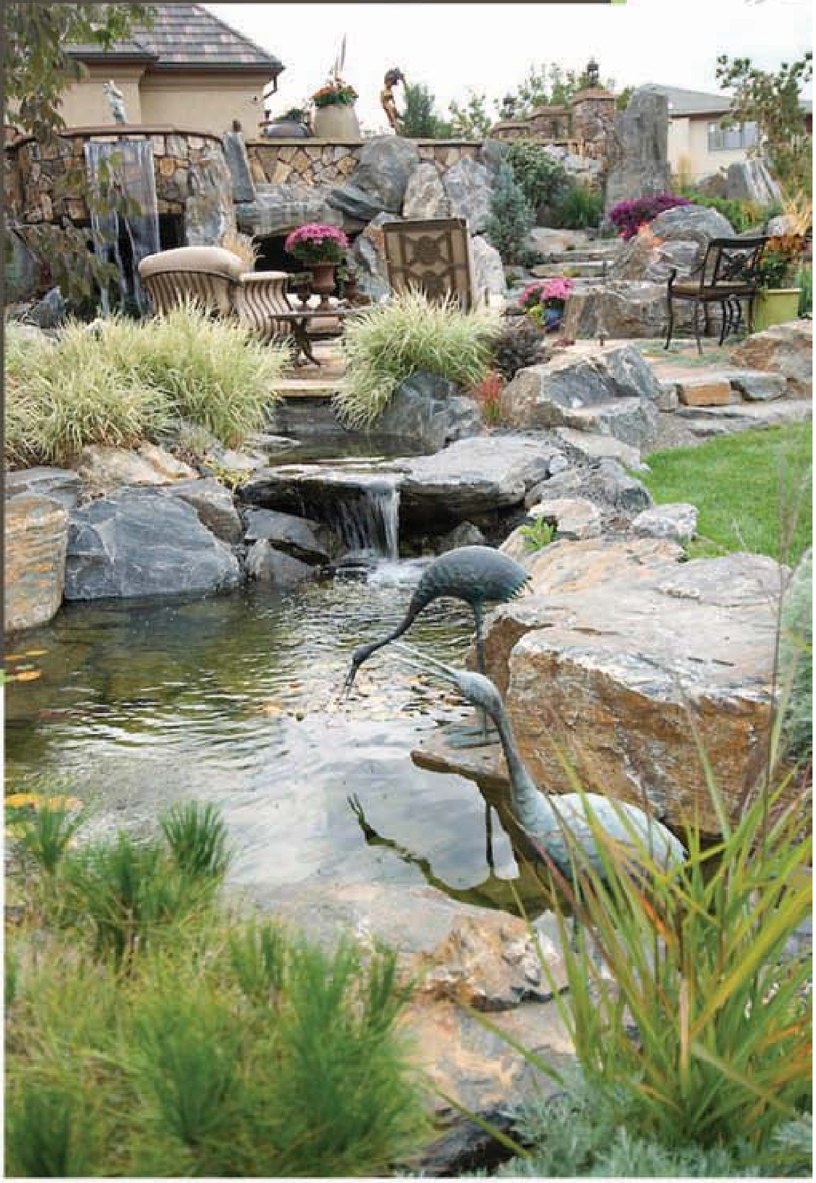

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